

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 ARA-10 /099 W
-----095297 140401Z /16
R 121448Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 502

C O N F I D E N T I L ANTANANARIVO 834

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG
SUBJ: FRANCOPHONE FOREIGN MINISTERS AND SUMMIT MEETING, PARIS,
MAY 1978; AND FRANCO-MALAGASY RELATIONS

REF: A) STATE 112420; B) ANTANANARIVO BIO CARD, PIERRE HUNT,
3/2/76

AMBASSADOR OF MADAGASCAR IN PARIS IS EXPECTED TO ATTEND FRANCOPHONE
SUMMIT OF MAY 27 AS OBSERVER ONLY. THIS IN SPITE OF FACT
FRENCH APPARENTLY PUT SOME PRESSURE ON MALAGASY GOVERNMENT TO SEND
A SPECIAL DELEGATE. HOWEVER, PRESIDENT RATSIRAKA IS EXPECTED TO
VISIT FRANCE WITHIN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS AT LONGSTANDING INVITATION
OF PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING, REINTERATED TO RATSIRAKA ON
APRIL 14 BY FRENCH AMBASSADOR PIERRE HUNT UPON HIS RETURN FROM PARIS.
THIS INVITATION IS PROBABLY LARGELY THE WORK OF HUNT WHO ACTED
AS TEMPORARY SPOKESMAN FOR FRENCH PRESIDENT DURING ELECTION
CAMPAIGN (REF B) AND IS LEAVING MADAGASCAR DEFINITELY ON MAY 13,
TO TAKE UP SPOKESMAN POST ON A
PERMANENT BASIS. RATSIRAKA'S ACCEPTANCE IN PRINCIPLE OF INVITATION
IS PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE, BUT NOT TIMING OF VISIT. IT IS GENERALLY
THOUGHT THAT RATSIRAKA WILL WANT TO BALANCE THIS TRIP TO A WESTERN
COUNTRY WITH ONE TO EASTERN EUROPE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 Jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETINGS, SUMMIT MEETINGS, FRANCOPHONE COUNTRIES, MEETING DELEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 May 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ANTANA00834
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780204-0475
Format: TEL
From: ANTANANARIVO
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780566/aaaacefl.tel
Line Count: 55
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: daeb16a0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: 78 STATE 112420, 78 ANTANANARIVO 978
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 Apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2713509
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRANCOPHONE FOREIGN MINISTERS AND SUMMIT MEETING, PARIS, MAY 1978; AND FRANCO-MALAGASY RELATIONS
TAGS: PORG, MA
To: PARIS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/daeb16a0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014